

## Asia – Pacific Trade Briefs: Cambodia

- In 2012 Cambodia’s exports grew by 18% compared with just 3% for the Asia-Pacific region on average. This followed even stronger export growth of 23% in 2010 and 35% in 2011. However, due to commensurately strong import growth, the trade balance has gone from a deficit of 16% of GDP in 2009 to 21% of GDP in 2012 [Figures 1 and 2].
- Exports are dominated by manufactured goods, such as textiles, which account for about 90% of total merchandise exports [Figure 6].
- The country has performed relatively well in attracting investment. FDI inflows have been growing steadily from \$540 million in 2009 to \$1.5 billion in 2012. In 2012 the share of inward FDI stock in GDP was far higher than the regional average [Figures 1 and 3].
- The economy is more open than others in the region when measured in terms of import penetration. Trade restrictions in the services sector are below the regional average, as measured by the World Bank’s Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI). However, the country imposes higher than average MFN applied tariffs on its trading partners [Figures 1 and 4].
- Trade costs with most Asia-Pacific subregions are higher than average. Costs are particularly high when trading with countries in North and Central Asia as well as South and South-West Asia. More can be done to facilitate trade as it takes 24 days to complete trade procedures on average [Figures 1 and 4]

Figure 1. Trade and Investment Performance Indicators (2012)

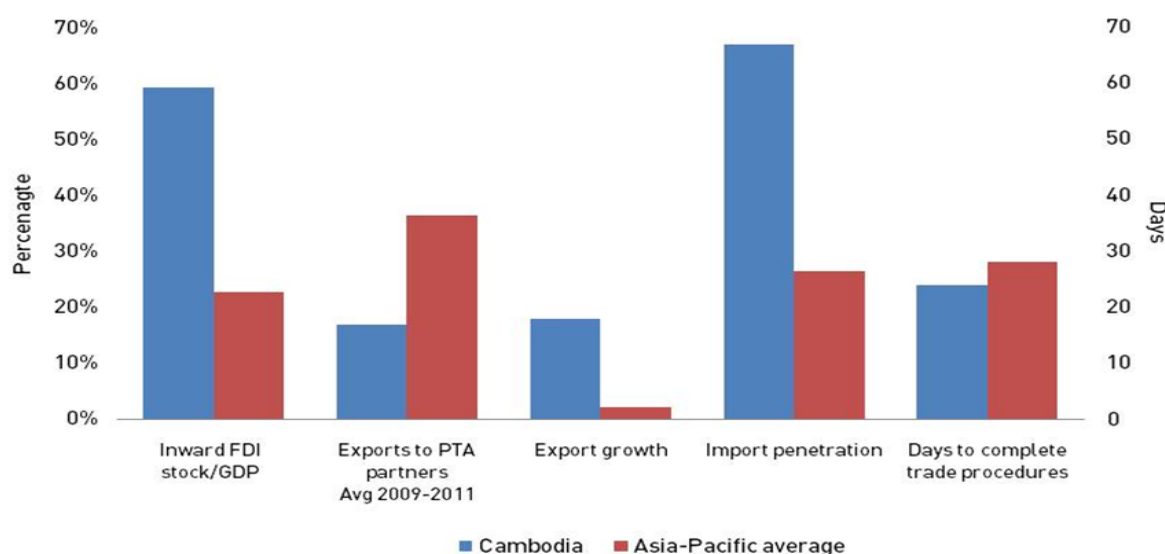


Figure 2. Merchandise Trade

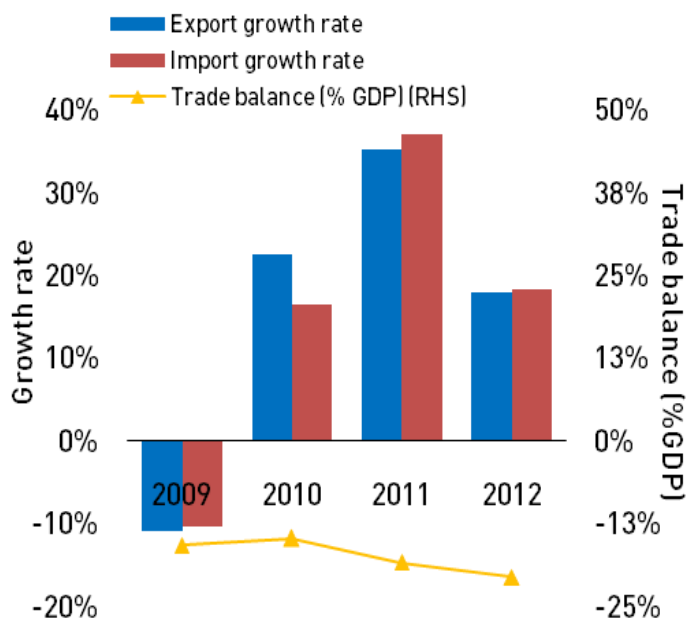


Figure 3. FDI Flows

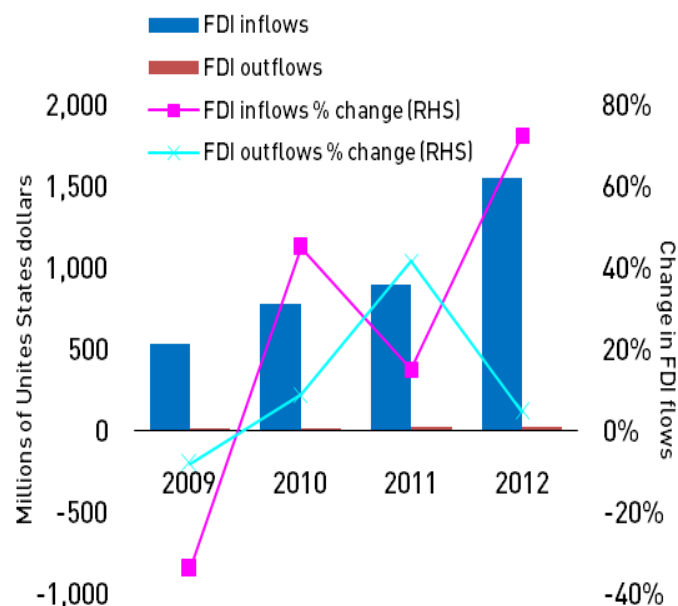


Figure 4. Trade Barriers

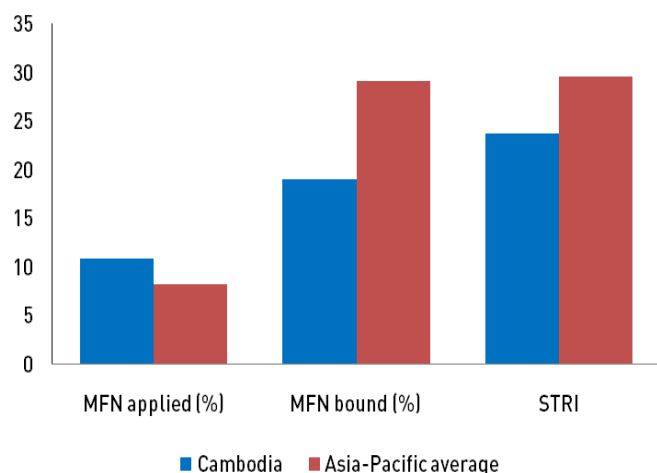


Figure 5. Trade Costs (excl. tariffs) with Asia-Pacific Subregions

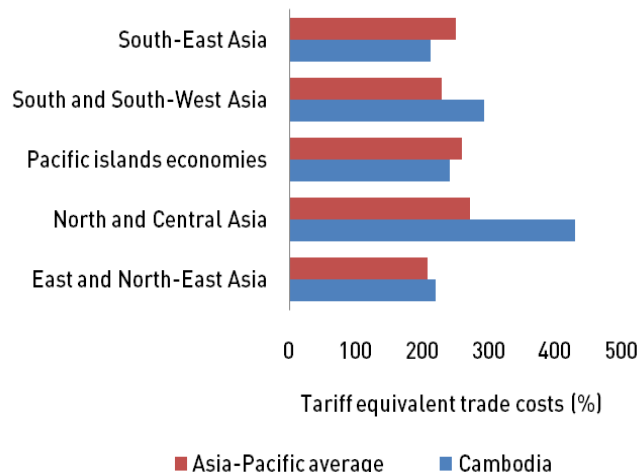
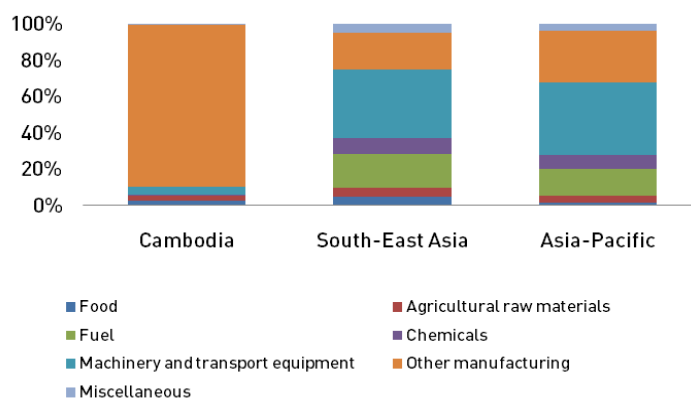


Figure 6. Export Composition by Category (2010-2012)



Notes

FDI: foreign direct investment  
 PTA: preferential trade agreement  
 MFN: most-favoured-nation  
 STRI: Services Trade Restrictiveness Index <http://iresearch.worldbank.org/service/trade/>  
 Definitions:  
 Import penetration: share of imports in domestic demand  
 PTA coverage: share of exports to PTA partners in total exports. Average over 2009-11  
 Trade costs: all costs involved in trading goods internationally relative to those involved in trading goods domestically. Average over 2006-11  
 MFN applied: tariffs applied on imports among WTO members.  
 MFN Bound: maximum MFN tariff levels agreed to as part of WTO obligations.

Source: Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report (APTIR) 2013 unless otherwise specified.  
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